Statement-III

Number of Villages per Fair Price Shops in Rural Areas

SI. No.	Name of the State/UTs	Population Rural (in lakhs) (as on 1.7.98)	Total No. of Villages		FPS No. of Rural Villages per FPS (3/4)
1.	Andhra Pradesh	527.65	28000	32813	0.85
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.13	3649	842	4.33
3.	Assam	225.85	25590	27466	0.93
4.	Bihar	828.05	77697	47293	1.64
5.	Goa	7.78	369	429	0.86
6.	Gujarat	297.57	18509	10358	1.79
7.	Haryana	141.73	6988	5057	1.38
8.	Himachal Pradesh	58.31	19388	3418	5.67
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	71.57	6705	2237	3.00
10.	Karnataka	340.16	29193	14540	2.01
11.	Kerala	222.97	1384	12279	0.11
12.	Madhya Pradesh	573.86	76220	20489	3.72
13.	Maharashtra	523.31	43025	32400	1.33
14.	Manipur	15.70	2212	1742	1.27
15.	Meghalaya	18.63	5629	3262	1.73
16.	Mizoram	3.48	785	874	0.90
17.	Nagaland	12.41	1225	138	8.88
18.	Orissa	296.91	51057	20980	2.43
19.	Punjab	158.75	12795	8680	1.47
20.	Rajasthan	391.35	39810	14041	2.84
21.	Sikkim	4.72	453	519	0.87
22.	Tamil Nadu	388.88	16780	21684	0.77
23.	Tripura	29.73	856	1185	0.72
24.	Uttar Pradesh	1280.65	123950	64393	1.92
25.	West Bengal	554.24	40889	15628	2.62
26.	A&NIslands	2.65	547	286	1.91
27.	Chandigarh	0.89	25	46	0.54
28.	D&NHaveli	1.62	71	78	0.91
29.	Daman & Diu	0.68	24	7	3.43
30.	Delhi	14.71	209	2739	0.08
31.	Lakshadweep	0.25	23	21	1.10
32.	Pondicheny	2.97	264	153	1.73
	TOTAL	7007.16	634321	366077	1.73

*As per "Basic Rural Statistic" 1996.

Marketing of blended edible oils

671. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review its policy with regard to marketing of blended edible oils;

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in the matter; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) to (c). Under the current provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, marketing of blends of only two edible oils is allowed. This has been reviewed in this Ministry and a recommendation has been made for appropriate amendment of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, so as to allow marketing of blends of more than two edible oils.

No decision has been taken, so far

Piling up of Foodgrains Stock in FCI Godowns

672. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether foodgrains worth several hundred crores are on the verge of rotting as the stocks have been piling up in FCI godowns for over three years;

(b) if so, the details of the country-wise position of foodgrain stocks lying unused in FCI godowns for three years, four years, five years and more than five years and the total thereof, with State-wise break-up;

(c) the reasons for such huge stock pile-up, as against set guidelines; and

(d) the details of immediate steps proposed for clearing old stock and measures proposed to ensure that old stocks are not allowed to pile up and for fixing the responsibility for administrative lapses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER

AFFAIRS. (SHRI SATYA PAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b). FCI has about 6.7 lakh M.T. of Foodgrains in its stocks which are more than 3 years old, fit for human consumption and about 1.32 lakh tonnes of damaged foodgrains which are not fit for human consumption. The state-wise details are given in Annexure *(See* Appendix 185, Annexure No. 15]

(c) The foodgrain stocks for Public Distribution system from FCI Depots are issued on the principle of First in First out. However, some State Governments were not lifting the entire quantity during the last few years due to which the stocks in FCI have piled up. Further, the stocks of rice purchased under relaxed specifications during the crop year 1997-98 were to be issued on over riding priority which has retarded the issue of old stocks.

(d) FCI has been directed to follow the principle of First In First Out (FIFO) vigorously while disposing the stocks of foodgrains under Targetted Public Distrbution System (TPDS)/ Other Welfare Schemes etc. FCI has also been directed to more the stocks of old rice from surplus states to deficit states for early disposal. Besides, Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSSD) of wheat has also since been undertaken. Some old stock of wheat conforming to PFA standard is expected to be disposed of under this Scheme. The stocks of foodgrains, which are not fit for human consumption are disposed off as animal feed, cattle feed, poultry feed etc. by offering to State Governments/firms registered with Food Corporation of India.

वनस्पति क्षेत्र के लिए तेल बोर्ड

673. **श्री डी.पी. यादव**: क्या खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामले मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या घरेलु खाद्य तेल उद्योग ने तेल और वनस्पति क्षेत्र में तीव्र विकास के लिए तेल बोर्ड के गठन की मांग की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार इस मांग के अनुसार तेल बोर्ड का गठन करेगी ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

खाद्य और उपभोक्ता मामले के मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सत्यपाल सिंह यादव): (क) तेल और वसा इकॉनमी के विभिन्न क्षेत्रो में, जिसमें तेल निस्सारण और प्रसंस्करण उद्योग और तिलहनों की खेती भी शामिल है, बेहतर समन्वय और विकास हेतु तेल बोर्ड बनाने के लिए सरकार को भारतीय वनस्पति उत्पादक एसोसिएशन से एक प्रस्ताव/ज्ञापन प्राप्त हुआ है।

(ख) और (ग) प्रस्ताव की जांच की जा रही है।

Rise in Prices of Vegetables and Essential Commodities

674. SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:
SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY:
SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY:
SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are abreast of the unprecedented rise in the prices of vegetables and other essential commodities like pulses, making them beyond the reach of common man;

(b) if so, the percentage of comparative rise in prices during the last six months;

(c) the reasons for rocketing prices of vegetables and other essential commodities;

(d) the measures taken by Government to bring down prices at par with those prevailing during the corresponding period of the last year and to make commodities available to consumers at reasonable prices; and

(e) whether Government propose to initiate stringent action against hoarders of essential items?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS (SHRI SATYAPAL SINGH YADAV): (a) and (b) A statement showing the variations in the Wholesale Price Index Numbers of selected essential commodities for the last six months is given in the enclosed statement *(see* below)

(c) The main reasons for the increase in the prices of vegetables and other essential commodities are decline ift their production due to adverse climatic conditions, non-availability of sufficient quantities in the international market for imports.